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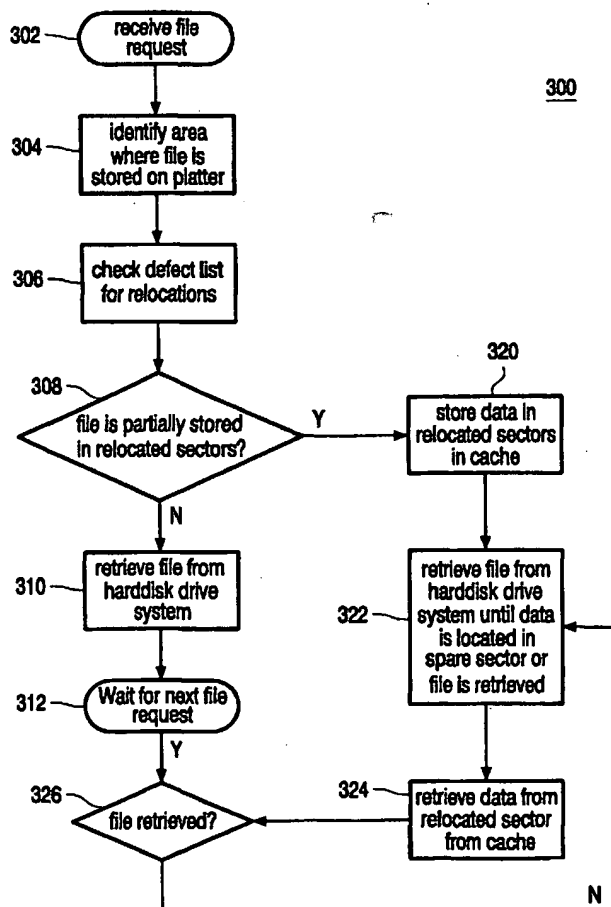
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RETRIEVING DATA



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method of caching data stored in allocation units of a memory (102), preferably a harddisk drive system, of which retrieval incurs a performance penalty. An example of this is data in a spare sector (215), located in a spare area (210) on the hard disk platter (200). The cache memory (103) is, however, a precious commodity. The need for memory space may be reduced by only caching data in spare sectors in which data belonging to a file that is retrieved is stored. Also the impact of other kinds of causes of performance penalties may be solved in this way, like those caused by soft defects and fragmentation of files.

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